

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 14-16 have been cancelled. Thus, Claims 7 and 17-22 are currently pending in the present application, none of which has been amended.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 5 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Dobbek et al.* (US 6,034,831). Since Claims 5 and 14-16 have been cancelled, the claim objections on those claims are deemed moot.

Claims 7 and 17-22 are allowed. The remaining prior art cited by the Examiner but not relied upon has been reviewed and is not believed to show or suggest the claimed invention.

No fee or extension of time is believed to be necessary; however, in the event that any addition fee or extension of time is required for the prosecution of the present application, please charge it against Hitachi Corporation Deposit Account No. 50-2587.

Respectfully submitted,



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